

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 8, 10, 11, 19 and 21-23. A complete listing of the claims is provided below.

1-9 (Cancelled)

8. **(Currently amended)** A method for in vitro screening for a ~~transdominant intracellular bioactive agent~~ peptide capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:
- a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized ~~candidate~~ nucleic acids into a plurality of cells to provide for expression of a plurality of test peptides each comprising a randomized amino acid sequence and a glycine N-terminal to said randomized amino acid sequence, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized ~~candidate~~ nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides, wherein each of said retroviral vectors comprises a nucleic acid encoding at least one glycine N-terminal to the randomized peptide;
 - b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to an interaction between a test peptide and a cellular component endogenous to said cell ~~the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent~~; and
 - c) identifying said peptide capable of altering the phenotype of said cell, ~~transdominant bioactive agent~~.

9. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said identifying comprises:

- i) isolating said cell exhibiting an altered phenotype.

10. **(Currently amended)** A method according to claim 9 wherein said identifying further comprises:

- ii) sequencing said nucleic acid encoding said peptide capable of altering the phenotype of said cell ~~transdominant bioactive agent~~.

11. **(Currently amended)** A method according to claim 8 wherein ~~each of~~ said nucleic acids further encode ~~comprise~~ a presentation sequence capable of presenting said test peptides ~~expression product~~ in a conformationally restricted form.

12. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said cells are mammalian cells.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^4 different nucleic acids.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^5 different nucleic acids.

15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^6 different nucleic acids.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^7 different nucleic acids.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^8 different nucleic acids.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 8 wherein said library comprises at least 10^9 different nucleic acids.

19. **(Currently amended)** A method according to claim 8 wherein each of said ~~candidate~~ nucleic acids is linked to nucleic acid encoding at least one fusion partner.

20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19 wherein said fusion partner comprises a nuclear localization signal sequence.

21. (Currently amended) A method for in vitro screening for a **peptide transdominant intracellular bioactive agent** capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized **candidate** nucleic acids into a plurality of cells **to provide for expression of a plurality of test peptides each comprising a randomized amino acid sequence**, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;

b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered **cell growth** phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to **an interaction between a test peptide and a cellular component endogenous to said cell** the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is cell growth; and

c) identifying said **peptide capable of altering the cell growth phenotype of said cell**. transdominant bioactive agent.

22. (Currently amended) A method for in vitro screening for a **peptide transdominant intracellular bioactive agent** capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells **to provide for expression of a plurality of test peptides each comprising a randomized amino acid sequence**, wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;

b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting an altered **cell death** phenotype, wherein said altered phenotype is due to **an interaction between a test peptide and a cellular component endogenous to said cell** the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is cell death; and

c) identifying said **peptide capable of altering the cell death phenotype of said cell**. transdominant bioactive agent.

23. **(Currently amended)** A method for in vitro screening for a **peptide transdominant intracellular bioactive agent** capable of altering the phenotype of a cell, said method comprising the steps:

a) introducing a molecular library of retroviral vectors comprising randomized candidate nucleic acids into a plurality of cells **to provide for expression of a plurality of test peptides each comprising a randomized amino acid sequence**, ~~wherein each of said nucleic acids comprises a different nucleotide sequence, wherein said randomized candidate nucleic acids are expressed in said cells to produce a plurality of randomized peptides;~~

b) screening said plurality of cells for a cell exhibiting **a change in expression of a cellular differentiation marker** ~~an altered phenotype~~, wherein said **change in expression** ~~altered phenotype~~ is due to **an interaction between a test peptide and a cellular component endogenous to said cell** ~~the presence of a transdominant bioactive agent, wherein said altered phenotype is a change in expression of cellular differentiation markers;~~ and

c) identifying said **peptide capable of changing expression of a cellular differentiation marker of said cell**. ~~transdominant bioactive agent.~~

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said cellular differentiation markers are characteristic of T-cell activation.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said cellular differentiation markers are characteristic of B-cell activation.